2. (Amended) A process for producing spherically-shaped ceramics as claimed in claim 1, wherein the starting material is calcium phosphate, tricalcium phosphate, calcium dihydrogenphosphate, tetracalcium phosphate, octacalcium phosphate, or a mixture of these calcium phosphates.

3. (Amended) A sustained drug release product obtained by forming the spherical-shape ceramics obtained according to claim 1 or 2 into a porous product, followed by impregnating the pores with a drug.

4. (Amended) A sustained drug release product as claimed in claim 3, wherein, after the drug is impregnated into the porous ceramics, the impregnated parts are plugged by said ceramics, whereby the sustained release time of the drug is controlled.

5. (Amended) A process for producing spherically-shaped ceramics comprising:

bringing a starting material for ceramics into contact with a low temperature medium, followed by freeze drying and;

thereafter sintering the resultant freeze dried product.

11. (New ) A process for producing spherically-shaped ceramics as claimed in claim 5, wherein the starting material is calcium phosphate, tricalcium phosphate, calcium dihydrogenphosphate, tetracalcium phosphate, octacalcium phosphate, or a mixture of these calcium phosphates.

12. (New) A process for producing a sustained drug release product comprising forming the spherical-shape ceramics obtained according to claim 1 or 2 into a porous product and by impregnating the pores with a drug.

13. (New) A process as claimed in claim 12, wherein, after the drug is impregnated into the porous ceramics, the impregnated parts are plugged by said ceramics, whereby the sustained release time of the drug is controlled.